

"Harmony is the Key"

Gordon Alleyne
April 6, 1984
1st meeting of new executive
C.S.U.

1. Harmony
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1. Harmony

From the very first meeting of the Caribbean Students' Union it was stressed by the president, Mr. Gordon Alleyne, and agreed upon by the executive that matters such as plans, arguments, points, decisions and all information generated in executive meetings would remain among the executives only. That is, executive members should not discuss whatever takes place in their meetings with non-executive members of the union or anyone else for that matter. The same rule applied to the sub-committees of the Union. However, Gordon was the first, and up-to-date, is the only member of the executive who discusses whatever takes place in executive meetings with non-executive members and others, to the point where his delivery has had damaging effects to both the executive and the Union. There are members in this meeting who can attest to the fact that Gordon has on several occasions irresponsibly passed information to them after executive meetings. The damage will be shown later.

2. Executives are informed of events after Gordon planned them, then members are expected to give of their time, money and cooperation, unquestioningly.

a. Graduation

- i. Members were told at the very first executive meeting that a contract had been signed by Gordon and others with the soccer team of C.S.U. for the soccer team to cater at the graduation. This contract was signed without the knowledge and advice of the executive.
- ii. Most executive meetings at the outset were chaotic because Gordon insisted that Mylene, the outgoing treasurer was responsible for doing the book-keeping for the graduation, and was doing so while Elcho and some members of the executive thought that since Gordon had already gone ahead and signed the contract with the soccer team, the new executive was responsible for the graduation; therefore, the new treasurer should do the book-keeping. (Minutes of May 4th.) Mylene later informed the treasurer that she never touched the book-keeping for the Graduation. It is not known who did and how the funds were distributed.

It must be pointed out here that according to the C.S.U. constitution, (Section 2 Article a. #5), the treasurer and president should be the co-signing officers of any cheque requisitions or purchase requisitions of the Union....The treasurer is responsible for all monies of the union. To date, the treasurer has not done any of the above mentioned duties - Gordon has.

iii. It was soon found out that not many graduates were interested in paying to attend their own graduation dinner and dance. To compensate for any possible loss, the executives ~~were~~ told that they must pay the going rate of \$25.00 to attend the graduation that they were planning. There was no concensus at the executive meeting about this demand and some members did not attend the graduation. These members, of course, were accused of not doing their duty as a member of the executive.

- b. The Cultural Show and Dance
 - i. The executive was told that Derek, the outgoing president, had verbally committed the Union to participatw in the show in conjunction with the Grenada Emancipation 150th Committee. Once again, there was not a concensus on the executive committee about honoring Derek's commitment. Nevertheless, plans went ahead and C.S.U. became the sole party with respect to the promotion of the show and dance and in terms of participants.
 - ii. The co-ordinator of the show was hand-picked by Gordon and she was promised an assistant but was never given one. Gordon later said that the show failed because of the co-ordinator's irresponsibility. It had not occurred to Gordon that he had chosen someone who is

willing but inexperienced in doing shows and dances.

Neither did it occur to him that had he given his executive a chance to make some input into the show's planning it might have been successful.

iii. When plans were well ahead for the show, one emergency executive meeting was called a few days prior to the show. Executive members were then asked, for the first time since April 6, to help with the show.

At that meeting, the treasurer was told that the job of collecting tickets was given to someone else, and she should contact that person to take over the responsibility.

The treasurer questioned why the job was given to someone else before she, the treasurer, was asked to do it.

She pointed out the awkwardness in asking the previous person to hand over the responsibility. The president's came to an abrupt conclusion from this discussion that the treasurer was avoiding her responsibilities. This became a bone of contention.

3. "What are we going to do about Elcho?"

a. From the outset, Gordon had told some members of the Union, and indeed the executive, that in order to

get only the bare minimum output and participation from the treasurer, two meetings would be held whenever a meeting is necessary. The treasurer would not be informed of the first meeting so that the other executive members would make plans without her. An official meeting would later be called, the treasurer would be invited, as if it is the first of its kind.

Because of this attitude, there ~~was~~ always arguments between Gordon and Elcho in executive meetings with Elcho not knowing that Gordon wanted her to appear to be disruptive, non-cooperative and the odd one, at all times. Eventually, Elcho said that she was fed up with the constant arguing and began to absent herself from executive meetings. Gordon then tried to influence the executive into getting rid of her - hence - "What are we going to do about Elcho?". He was advised by the rest of the executive that Elcho was his obsession, not theirs (Minutes of the meeting of July 30th, 1984) and they suggested that Gordon meet and talk with her and find some way to iron out their differences. This suggestion was made on more than one occasion. Gordon agreed to meet with Elcho but it appears that he never did.

4. At one meeting, Gordon waved a letter at the executive, (August 14th, 1984), stating that Elcho had written him and that he had handed the letter over to the Dean of Students. He (Gordon) did not show the letter to the executive; however, he threatened that the next time he receives "a letter like that it will be handled differently."

Some members of the executive voiced the opinion that if the Dean of Students is given access to internal information about the C.S.U. the executive of C.S.U. should know the contents of such a letter. Gordon refused to read the letter and, as a matter of fact, the discussion was closed abruptly!

b. At another "What are we going to do about Elcho" meeting, Gordon informed the executive that Elcho was shirking her duties as a treasurer because she had refused to do what he asked.

He was reminded by a member of the executive that what Elcho refused to do was to fix the books to accommodate the "lost" receipt of \$400.00 from his graduation paper-work - which she knew nothing about. Gordon hastily closed the matter.

4. Gordon does not give members of the Union enough time to prove their dedication to the Union.

An absence from a meeting or an event immediately causes him to solicit drastic and immediate action from other committee or executive members without the party being given a chance to explain or defend himself.

Example: Sham/poor leadership, attitude

Millie/Crooks/attitude

Kathy Provost/attitude

David McKesey/attitude

Michael Walters/attitude

Emmanuel Guibert/attitude

Anne Corbin/irresponsible

Preston Williams/attitude, leadership

Junior Paul/lacks leadership qualities

Mylene Hanley/not reliable - always quitting.

5. Resignation

After the Cultural Show of August 18th, Gordon called a meeting. Half an hour after the meeting was scheduled to start Gordon was still absent while members patiently waited for him. Eventually, the phone rang and a messenger informed the executive that Gordon was disillusioned about the executive's lack of involvement in the cultural show and that he has resigned.

According to the C.S.U. Constitution, the vice-president, David Mckesey, immediately assumed the role of the president. Gordon later turned over his records to the vice-president, and gave him instructions to facilitate a smooth change of office. Gordon has since changed his mind, wishes to resume the presidency causing the need for this meeting.

6. Since his resignation:

1. The C.S.U. budget was finalized by David and Elcho and handed in to IEAC.
2. C.S.U. was represented at IEAC's annual Lacolle weekend, by Marquita and Elcho.
3. A registration booth was set up to register new and returning students.
4. C.S.U's office was painted.
5. The C.S.U. library was started.(Marquita and Sham)
6. C.S.U. was represented on the Mezzanine on International Day in conjunction with C.S.A.(Marquita, Michael and Elcho).
7. Plans for the first General Meeting/Wine and Cheese evening are being finalized.
8. Plans for the C.S.U. annual sports weekend, to be held on October 5th, are well underway - all with full participation from the membership and with high morale once again.

It is well known that Gordon has publicly undermined the efforts of the people involved in these activities and has been acting in a manner which the membership should deem "not to be in the best interest of the union." Furthermore, he is indeed acting in a manner "contrary to the stated aims and objectives of the Union."

7. Based on the above, the membership is hereby being asked to abide by the guidelines of the C.S.U. Constitution (Article X

Impeachment and Removal from Office, Article XI Discipline) and approve this motion for Gordon's impeachment and removal from office.